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16 July 1953

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Briefing of Military Attaches

1. Inquiries to O/TR from ORR for the privilege of making special arrangements for briefing of military attaches have been brought to the attention of OIC.

2. The briefing of outgoing military attaches through the Strategic Intelligence School and the Naval Intelligence School through arrangements established by O/TR has been generally satisfactory. ORR, OSI and OO are the DD/I Offices principally participating in such briefings.

3. All of the outgoing attaches do not go through the S.I.S. or the N.I.S., and it is felt that the Training Office should investigate whether arrangements can be made for the briefing of such attaches. This O/TR has agreed to do.

4. ORR, OSI and OO (Sovmat) feel that in certain cases specialized briefings would be beneficial to subsequent reporting. While it is deemed inappropriate for ORR, OSI and OO (Sovmat) to levy requirements through discussions with attaches (there being a normal channel for such), it is believed that for officers going to certain posts a more specific orientation regarding the nature of research in ORR and OSI and OO (Sovmat) needs would greatly facilitate the attaches' responding to requirements when levied through normal channels. It is believed by O/TR, and the interested Offices agree, that meeting this need is not primarily or substantially a Training problem and that somewhere in DD/I the responsibility for judging the validity and utility of special briefings and the making of arrangements therefore should be handled.

5. OCD has made arrangements for this Agency to obtain information on what attaches are going to what post and the backgrounds of the individuals. OCD does not believe that it

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should be functionally responsible, however, for making the arrangements with ORR, OSI and OO for the special briefings and escorting the attaches to such briefings.

6. OIC has some doubt that such specialized briefings are so materially distinct from the general responsibility which O/TR has for arranging and managing the briefings at S.I.S. and N.I.S. If it had to be done in the DD/I area, it is not clear how much work in addition to the function in paragraph 5 would be required. Accordingly, for the time being, OIC has agreed to make the arrangements for the briefings in order to obtain first-hand experience regarding the number of attaches and the nature of the problems alleged to exist in this matter. After a month to six weeks experience, OIC will prepare, in cooperation with the interested Offices, a recommendation for the permanent placing of this responsibility. 25X1

7. [redacted] of OIC will be the officer in charge of receiving requests from ORR, OSI and OO for briefing of military attaches after those Offices have been notified by OCD, and he will make the necessary arrangements.

8. On the request of ORR, OIC undertook to arrange with appropriate officers in the State Department a discussion of the question of what arrangements can be made for giving specialized briefing to foreign service economic reporting officers going to the field. OSI reports its interest in this respect is not clear but that it will in the near future report to OIC whether it is interested in comparable arrangements on scientific intelligence.

*S/* JAMES Q. REBER

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Assistant Director  
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OIC:JQR:KR (15 July 1953)

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